

2018 CARA SURVEY
SUMMARY OF DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER

July 1, 2017 through July 1, 2018

The following data represents credible¹ reports made during the period of time July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 alleging sexual abuse of minors by priests and deacons of the Diocese of Manchester.² This data was reported to the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA).

Under diocesan policy, all reports of sexual abuse of a minor by Church personnel are reported to the Office for Ministerial Conduct. The Delegate for Ministerial Conduct informs Bishop Libasci and the Office of the New Hampshire Attorney General of every report received, regardless of when the abuse occurred or whether the report has the semblance of truth. When Bishop Libasci determines that there is a “semblance of truth” to a report, he immediately provides for the pastoral care of the complainant. The Diocese of Manchester cooperates with the civil authorities in any investigations. The bishop initiates a preliminary investigation in accordance with Church law when cleared to do so by law enforcement. If the accused is alive, the bishop places the accused person on precautionary leave pending the conclusion of the preliminary investigation.

The Church investigation is conducted using a professional lay investigator. For cases involving living clerics, all investigative material is provided to the Diocesan Review Board along with a recommendation from the Delegate for Ministerial Conduct and the investigator as to whether or not the allegations are “probable.” The Diocesan Review Board then advises the Bishop of its findings regarding the probability of the report and makes a recommendation concerning the accused person’s suitability for ministry. As required by Church law, Bishop Libasci forwards to the Holy See all reports of sexual abuse of a minor against priests or deacons that have the semblance of truth, along with his recommendation for a final disposition.

During fiscal year 2017-2018, the Diocese of Manchester received additional reports not noted below because they do not fit the criteria set forth by CARA. In addition to the information below, the Diocese of Manchester received one (1) report involving a priest who was dismissed from the clerical state that is currently being investigated to determine its credibility and three (3) reports about priests already deceased, dismissed, or permanently restricted that were not able to be proven as either credible or not credible. All of these allegations were reported to the office of the NH Attorney General, and outreach services have been offered through the Office for Healing and Pastoral Care to all those who reported abuse.

CREDIBLE ALLEGATIONS AGAINST CLERY 7/1/17-6/30/18

Number of reports: **1**

¹ “Credible” refers to an allegation that has been sufficiently substantiated by a preliminary investigation to bear a “semblance of truth.” In the case of a deceased perpetrator, the allegation is credible if it meets the criteria for forwarding to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

² Data involving clergy that are members of religious institutes is not reported in this document because that information is reported to CARA by the religious institutes.

Dates when reported abuse of a minor began:

1954 or earlier	0	1985-1989	0
1955-1959	0	1990-1994	0
1960-1964	0	1995-1999	0
1965-1969	1	2000-2004	0
1970- 1974	0	2005-2009	0
1975-1979	0	2010	0
1980-1984	0	Time period unknown	0

THOSE MAKING REPORTS

Victim Gender:	Male	1
	Female	0

Who made the report to the Diocese:

Complainant	0
Family member	0
Friend of victim	0
Attorney	1
Law Enforcement	0
Bishop or official from Another diocese	0
Other	0

Ages of complainant when reported abuse began:

0 – 9 years	0
10 – 14 years	1
15 – 17 years	0
Age unknown	0

THOSE NAMED IN REPORTS

Number of priests named:	1
Deceased, already removed or laicized:	1
Have had one or more previous allegations:	1
Were returned to ministry following resolution of the allegations:	0

FINANCIAL EXPENDITURES

Since 2002, the Diocese has responded to hundreds of requests for financial settlements by survivors of child sexual abuse and has reported annually the total amounts of these settlements. In making any such financial disclosure, the Diocese complies with all requests by complainants that their identities and their individual settlement amounts not be disclosed to the public. Complainants are not asked by the Diocese to observe any disclosure restrictions.

During the time period covering July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018, the Diocese entered into settlements for a total amount of **\$50,000**. Note that the settlement amount does not correlate with the number of individuals making reports in this time period. Some settlements were related to reports made prior to July 1, 2017, and not all persons making reports request financial support to assist in healing. Financial settlements are paid from the Diocesan Insurance Fund. No parish, Catholic school, or other diocesan funds have been used to pay these costs.

In addition to the foregoing payments, during this time period, the Diocese paid **\$14,420** to independent mental health providers for services provided to survivors of sexual abuse. The Office for Healing and Pastoral Care coordinates this care.